

# Recommended Reading for Professional Development

Organized by general subject rather than command echelon

## Profession of arms

- Don Higginbotham, *George Washington and the American Military Tradition* [commercial publication]
- Suzanne C. Nielsen and Don M. Snider, *American Civil-Military Relations: The Soldiers and the State in the New Era* [commercial publication]  
*American Civil-Military Relations* offers the first comprehensive assessment of the subject since the publication of Samuel P. Huntington's field-defining book, *The Soldier and the State*.

## Institutional development

- Bruce Godmundsson, *On Armor* [commercial publication]  
Overview of evolution of combined-arms organizations from World War I through Cold War; analyzes combined-arms teams from a multi-national perspective, including the United States.
- George Hofmann and Donn Starry (eds), *Camp Colt to Desert Storm* [commercial publication]  
Anthology that includes set of articles devoted to principal eras in Armor Branch history; includes chapter on U.S. Marine Corps armor development.
- Robert S. Cameron, *To Fight or Not to Fight?* [CSI publication]  
Overview of doctrinal and organizational trends related to reconnaissance organizations and related issues; provides context for understanding current state of cavalry/recon.
- John J. McGrath, *Scouts Out!* [CSI publication]  
Overview of reconnaissance organizations in modern armies; multinational perspective.
- Robert S. Cameron, *Mobility, Shock, and Firepower* [CMH publication]  
Provides context for understanding the early development of the Armor Branch and its evolution from a platform-centric orientation into a set of unique capabilities amid the constraints of organizational precedents, budgetary limitations, and uncertainty regarding the capabilities of new technology.
- Martin L. Van Creveld, *Supplying War: Logistics from Wallenstein to Patton*; 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition [commercial publication]  
A second edition of this classic work, commenting on the role of logistics in warfare.
- John Stone, *The Tank Debate: Armour and the Anglo-American Military Tradition* [commercial publication]  
Analysis of tank development from World War II to 2000 with focus upon shaping factors and technology limitations; multinational perspective.
- National Training Center (NTC) Operations Group, *Training for Decisive Action: Stories of Mission Command* [CSI publication]
- Scott C. Farquhar (ed), *Back to Basics: A Study of the Second Lebanon War and Operation Cast Lead* [CSI publication]  
Chronicles the Israeli Defense Force's efforts to identify and apply lessons learned from 2006 to operations in Gaza; and transition from counterinsurgency (COIN)-centric orientation toward a more traditional combined-arms approach, not unlike current shifts in the U.S. Army in the last few years.

## Platform development

- David E. Johnson, *Fast Tanks and Heavy Bombers: Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917-1945* [commercial publication]  
Johnson examines the U.S. Army's innovations for both armor and aviation between the world wars, arguing that the tank became a captive of the conservative Infantry and Cavalry Branches, while the airplane's development was channeled by airpower insurgents bent on creating an independent air force.
- Orr Kelley, *King of the Killing Zone* [commercial publication]  
Highly readable overview of the development and fielding of the Abrams tank.
- Blair W. Haworth, *The Bradley and How it Got That Way* [commercial publication]  
Overview of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle and the factors influencing its development; also provides contextual understanding of mechanized-infantry evolution.
- Mark J. Reardon and Jeffery A. Charlston, *From Transformation to Combat: The First Stryker Brigade at War* [CMH publication]  
Overview of Stryker Brigade Combat Team development and initial entrance into combat.

## Combat operations

- Center for Army Lessons Learned, 17-01, *Scouts in Contact, Tactical Vignettes for Cavalry Leaders Handbook*, Dec. 8, 2016 [CAC publication]

Full of vignettes developed by subject-matter experts at NTC to help lead teams through a variety of scenarios that will help challenge young reconnaissance leaders' decision-making skills. Facilitator instructions guarantee you have the information needed to make leaders and teams successful.

- James R. McDonough, ***The Defense of Hill 781: An Allegory of Modern Mechanized Combat***  
Follows the fictional exploits of a lieutenant colonel who has died and found himself in purgatory (which happens to be NTC). He must atone for his sins as an officer through the successful completion of six missions. A modern version of ***The Defence of Duffer's Drift***, it provides a light-hearted tactical primer for making serious command decisions and learning lessons about tactics, people and what it takes to win a battle.
- Dale Wilson, ***Treat 'Em Rough!*** [commercial publication]  
Narrative of American tank experience in World War I.
- Harry Yeide, ***Steeds of Steel: A History of American Mechanized Cavalry in World War II*** [commercial publication]  
Readable overview of the varied experiences of mechanized cavalry in all theaters of operations, including the Pacific.
- Gene E. Salecker, ***Rolling Thunder Against the Rising Sun*** [commercial publication]  
Details operations of Army tank units in the Pacific during World War II – good illustration of the use of armor to support forcible-entry operations.
- Donn Starry, ***Mounted Combat in Vietnam*** [CMH publication]  
Readable text detailing the role of armor/cavalry in COIN; highlights versatility and adaptive qualities at a time when mounted COIN doctrine was largely nonexistent.
- Robert S. Cameron, ***Armor in Battle*** [CMH/APD publication]  
Collection of tactical engagements spanning experience of American armor from the interwar years through Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom.
- Jon T. Hoffman (ed), ***Tip of the Spear: U.S. Army Small Unit Action in Iraq, 2004-2007*** [CMH publication]
- John J. McGrath (ed), ***Between the Rivers: Combat Action Iraq 2003-2005*** [CSI publication]
- William G. Robertson (ed), ***In Contact! Case Studies from the Long War***, Vol. 1 [CSI publication]
- Donald P. Wright (ed), ***Vanguard of Valor: Small Unit Actions in Afghanistan***, Vol 1 [CSI publication]
- Donald P. Wright (ed), ***Vanguard of Valor: Small Unit Actions in Afghanistan***, Vol. 2 [CSI publication]
- David Zucchini, ***Thunder Run*** [commercial publication]  
Detailed description of the planning, preparation and execution of the April 2003 armored operations into Baghdad.
- Kendall Gott, ***Breaking the Mold: Tanks in the Cities*** [CSI publication]  
Collection of urban operations in which armor played a significant role.
- Asymmetric Warfare Group, ***The Defense of Battle Position Duffer***  
NTC narrative covering electromagnetic warfare, spectrum management, operational security, social media, information operations and others. Focused on brigade and below.
- William Haponski, ***Danger's Dragoons: The Armored Cavalry of the Big Red One in Vietnam***, 1969 Cantigny Park: First Division Museum, 2014  
Discussion of an armored-cavalry task force conducting multi-national combat operations in restrictive terrain.
- James Sawicki, ***Cavalry Regiments of the U.S. Army***, Dumfries, VA: Wyvern Publications, 1985
- Stephan Bourque and John Burdan, ***The Road to Safwan: The 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry in the 1991 Persian Gulf War***, Denton: University of North Texas Press, 2007  
Describes an armored-cavalry squadron conducting forced entry.

## Acronym Quick-Scan

APD – Army Publishing Directorate

CAC – Combined Arms Center

CMH – (U.S. Army) Center for Military History

COIN – counterinsurgency

CSI – Combat Studies Institute

NTC – National Training Center